



Appeal for support for student fund

The establishment of the West Coast FET College's own Bursary Fund in October is meant to generate support for students from the rural areas who are currently not supported by existing bursary schemes, and to widen access for many more to the college.

So says Deputy CEO for Innovation and Development Mrs Rhazia Hamza, who is spearheading the campaign for the college to solicit as much as possible partners in support of the fund.

She has issued an appeal to hundreds of businesses and institutions to partner the college in the launch of its Bursary Fund, to be held on Friday 01 October 2010 at the Malmesbury Golf Estate.

"The College Management has taken the decision to establish the Fund because we find that more and more learners from historically disadvantaged backgrounds opt for college studies because of a dire need to be skilled and become almost immediately employable.

"With the types of programmes and the limited financial aid that we are offering, the college is making an impact on many poor students to become socially and economically empowered on the West Coast. Our student intake in the last three years has increased significantly..."

cantly..."

Mrs Hamza said in as much as the college is attracting more students, the social pathologies impacting on the college and academic performances; including student retention and throughput "continue to pose steep challenges..."

"Three of the major factors that exacerbate these challenges are transport, accommodation and nutrition. For example, 50% of our students make use of the college transport scheme and 30% are in residences."

The feeding area of West Coast College is rural in nature and most of its occupants are seasonal workers and farm workers. There is not a big congestion of students in one single town to sustain a campus and we have to be innovative and combine students from different towns, hence our big expenditure on transport and accommodation for students.

She said without partners and support networks, it will be extremely difficult for the college to deliver on its mandate of skills provisioning. "That is why we the college is approaching significant and prominent West Coast Corporate

Deputy CEO for Innovation and Development Mrs Rhazia Hamza has issued an appeal to business and staff to contribute to the soon-to-be-launched college student bursary fund



Citizens, to assist in ensuring the successful kick-off of the Fund.

All of the guests expected to attend will be from industry and prominent partners in the education and commerce community, including government as well as social and business partners who are potential donors and supporters of the Fund.

Meanwhile, West Coast staff will also pledge financial support for the Fund at the launch function. A special function is being arranged for fundraising from staff. There are various options for staff, members of the community and businesses to contribute to the fund, it can be in the form of either once off pledges for one student, or contributions over a period of time.

*** If anyone wants to make a contribution to the fund, call Carlyn van Hinsbergen at 022 482 1143.**

Graduates are role models, says MP

Young people who choose to study instead of a life of gangsterism and drugs should be applauded and celebrated as role models, said Member of Parliament

for the Clanwilliam/Cederberg area Johnny de Lange at the college's annual graduation ceremony.

Mr de Lange, who as a former Deputy Justice and

Constitutional Development Minister was at the forefront of improving the criminal justice system of the country, was the Guest Speaker at the third annual graduation and certificate ceremony of West Coast College.

The college council conferred certificates and diplomas on more than 100 graduates. The college also acknowledged top achievers in levels two and four, who recorded five or more subject distinctions.

In an unusual step the college also accepted an offer from the family of a former

Guest Speaker Adv Johnny de Lange



staff member to honour his legacy. Mr Norman Pretorius was part of the Atlantis campus and his family says he made a sterling contribution in keeping youngsters in the college.

In her opening address the Chief Executive Officer Mrs Osma Jooste-Mokgethi outlined the academic achievements of the gradu-

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Staff members, from left: Thomas Obdrabu, Lydia Matiso, Brackley Mienies, Elana Miggel, Chrizelda Persent, Christelle Kouter and Magdalene Scholtz .

Staff members proud ambassadors of college brand

We have just had our graduation ceremony and it was a proud moment for me to see no less than seven staff members receiving their Diplomas.

They represent the brand and mission of West Coast College, which is to promote life long learning, which contributes to socio-economic development. In pursuit of our vision we want our students to be employable or enter higher education. The staff members therefor are true ambassadors for the college and our vision and brand.

The college was blessed with the presence of the many guests at the graduation ceremony, many of them familiar faces. Let me also state that I appreciated the message of the Guest Speaker Mr Johnny De Lange, who is a former Deputy Minister and the current Member of Parliament for the Clanwilliam / Cederberg area.

I also want to express my warm appreciation to the family and friends of the late Norman Pretorius, who have donated a floating trophy in honour of his contribution to the young people of Atlantis.

As I was observing the proceedings and the handing over of certificates and diplomas to more than 100 students, I felt overwhelmed by the fact that it has hardly been three years ago when West Coast had to scramble for its first intake of students for the National Certificate Vocational (NCV) programme.

At the time it was the latest introduction to the educational landscape and needless to say, it was a particularly challenging period for all of us. Strangely enough, we managed to achieve the target of 600. But after having achieved the target, the next challenge was to make sure the infrastructure could cope.

On top of that, we have had to deal with standardization and moderation processes, and all the other academic processes that go with it. But it was without a doubt a sharp learning curve.

Today, four years later, and after

spending many, many hours of careful planning and meticulous implementation, and having prepared both our lecturing staff and students for the NCV examinations last year, today we can look back and take pride in our first cohort of NCV graduates.

As West Coast FET College we can be proud to be part of this historical milestone in the delivery of the first Level Four NCV graduates. Given the historical background of this institution this has been the greatest achievement to see them graduate.

Towards the end of last year, hundred and eleven (111) Level 4 students sat for the first examinations. After a series of interventions and a benchmark of 60% per subject, all the efforts yielded good results.

I am proud to say that out of 18 subject entries across four programmes ie. Office Administration, Hospitality, Engineering and Related Design and Electrical Infrastructure Construction, only three subjects performed below the set benchmark, which covers 83.3% of the subjects.

Compared to National Subject passes the college was rated 12 out of 50 Colleges, which is a significant achievement. The Office Administration Level 2 students performed extremely well with more than 50 students in Malmesbury Campus passing with more than one subject distinction.

All the efforts paid dividends as West Coast College students performed well with a student pass rate of more than 80% in eleven subjects for the six different programmes.

The college recorded a 100% pass rate in three subjects written by 48 students: ie. Fitting and Turning; Applied Engineering; and Hospitality Services. In addition, the English First Language pass rate was 93,29%; Engineering Processing 90,48%; and Life Orientation 95,09%.

Office Data Processing (83,34%), Maths Literacy (88,85%), Electrical Principles (85,71%), Electrical Workmanship (85,71%), and Electronic Control (85,71%) all achieved distinc-

Message from the
CEO Osma Jooste
-Mokgethi



tion percentage pass rates.

The three highest average mark passing were achieved in the following subjects: Hospitality Services (65,7%), Office Data Processing (61,86%), and Life Orientation (61,25%).

These students have achieved against all odds, despite the higher demands of the new curriculum. To all the lecturers who were such an integral part of this building process – I commend you and I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

To the parents, I also salute you – you had the vision, the courage and the perseverance to see to it that your child stays in the classroom and you gave him or her the necessary support.

Last year we had our very first Diplomat, this year we have issued 21 Diplomas, which is symptomatic of the consistent and continued growth of West Coast over the last three years.

As we record more and more successes each year, we find our student population continuing to grow. With this growth comes new demands and therefore increased programmes to keep abreast.

As an institution of life-long learning we continuously strive for excellence in everything we do. Naturally it means that we have to continue to keep an eye on our curriculum offerings, to make sure we keep up with the growth and demand.

Once again congratulations to all the graduates and their proud families, thank you to everyone for attending our annual ceremony. I certainly hope to see all of you again next year.


OT JOOSTE-MOKGETHI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



ECD teachers from Lamberts Bay were excited to learn that the college decided to enrol ECD practitioners from this area for training at the PW de Bruin Primary School. When the CEO Mrs Osma Jooste-Mokgethi and ECD Programme Manager Mrs Hestia Orchard visit the group, they were received with a warm welcome from the facilitator, Mrs Glynnis Curnow and a lively bunch of ECD students. The CEO encouraged the learners to "just keep going even when it is hard to carry on". She commended them for having the determination and discipline to study part-time while being employed as teachers. "This certainly was a special visit since it showed the learners how important they are to the college and to what extent we want them to acquire the skills and knowledge they need to become successful professionals. said Mrs Orchard.

ates, and thanked the parents for their support to the students.

A highlight of the day was the capping of seven staff members of West Coast College after completing their 18-months practicals to obtain their diplomas.

Mr de Lange said the young people who have graduate are entering their young adult lives at a very good point in the history of South Africa's evolving democracy, especially with the country still basking in the aftermath of the glory of the Soccer World Cup.

He said with the world having nothing but praise for the country, many more opportunities for young graduates with the requisite skills will open up as many more visitors are expected to come visit the country.

Mr de Lange also congratulated the parents for their wisdom and determination to make sure their children are attending college to gain a qualification.

Their support and encouragement was vital for the success of the young graduates.

West Coast College wish to acknowledge the following sponsors for their contributions: University Bookshop; Starlight Electrical; Future Managers; Takata (Atlantis); and Du Plessis & Mostert.

Hundreds attend college open days

More than 500 learners and out of school youth flocked to the college's five campuses during its Open Days weekend, and several more schools and youth groups made block bookings for visits to the college to undergo assessments for career guidance during August.

This was a steady improvement from last as campuses saw a an increase in the flow of potential recruits with numbers exceeding the numbers of last year. In addition, all the campuses had stalls in shopping centres or malls, which yielded good responses.

What was significant about the visitors this year was that the majority were out-of-school young people, who want to acquire a skill to become employable or want to enhance their careers.

Campus lecturers and staff welcomed the learners and visitors, showing them displays of student support in the reception area and other displays of the academic programmes.

Vredendal lecturer Dil-



These groups of students were part of hundreds who attended open days information sessions in Citrusdal and Vredendal respectively



lette van Zyl said the learners were gathered in the hall for an introduction after which they were split into groups for tour visits to the workshops. They were visibly overwhelmed with the students' activities as they were busy with practical work.

The stalls of the different engineering courses were displayed in the workshops, the Office Administration stall in the simulated classrooms (SIM) and Education and Development in one of the classes.

While the students spent time at the different locations, the courses were briefly explained to them. Learners also had opportunities to walk around and observe and ask questions. The

college students assisted the visitors and were very eager to explain what they were busy doing.

While they moved from one point to the next, they were motivated to join the college and briefed about all the benefits of studying at West Coast College. The importance of the fundamentals in any career, were also emphasized.

They were informed about the residence facilities and transport facilities available. At the Open Learning Centre visitors viewed a power point presentation.

They were introduced to the Competency and Placement (CAP) test was explained to them and appointments were made for assessments during this August.

After the tour the visitors were entertained by college students, and helped with completing application forms. Visitors received college information, drawstring bags and a chocolate.

Prospective students are welcome to make appointments for free career assessment and guidance, contact your nearest campus or call 022 482 1143.

More companies participate in job shadowing programme

By Rhazia Hamza, Deputy CEO Innovation and Development

During the June holidays fifty eight (58) companies agreed to accommodate our students thereby placing 206 representing 87% of the current Level 4 learners in the various disciplines including Office administration, Management, Hospitality, Fitting and turning, Electrical and Automotive.

Learners exiting vocational institutions require practical work experience in order to graduate and to possibly gain employment opportunities post their vocational studies. The West Coast College job shadowing programme ensures that students are provided with workplace experience to increase their chances of employability.

Learners completed logbooks for insertion in their curriculums vitae demonstrating workplace exposure.

Employers completed evaluation forms and the preliminary findings including an assessment on learners' grooming, conduct, language usage, initiative, work ethics and suitability to workplace rate our learners 99.67% (average to excellent) with overall scoring of 80,5% in the above to excellent category.

West Coast College management wants to thank the following companies for their commitment to skills development and participation in our annual job shadowing programme: Department Justice Vredendal, Vredenburg, Mooresburg, Atlantis and Saldanha Bay; Vredendal Municipal Traffic Department; SCAC; SA Police Services Saldanha Bay; Vital Conecction (Vredenburg); Huis van Liefde (Vredenburg); Namakwa Sands (Vredendal); Vredendal Municipality; TRW Atlantis; Takata Atlantis; Joe Castro Engineering; Oceana Brands (St Helena Bay); Vredenburg Municipality; Kaap Agri (Malmesbury); PPC Kelders; Bokomo (Malmesbury); Exhaust Doctor; Extreme Auto; Kempena Motors (Malmesbury); Loubser Nissan; Kat ma Koep Guesthouse (Vredendal); Belle More Guesthouse (Vredendal); Kelder Lutz; Hasi-henda Guesthouse; Klawer Guesthouse; Van Rhynsdorp Guesthouse; Malmesbury Spur; Malmesbury Wimpy; Citrusdal Country Lodge; Mazda Garage; Citrusdal Country Lodge; Cederberg Rural Develop-



Percy Boois (right), Automotive Repair and Maintenance Level 4 student did his job shadowing at the Exhaust Motor company in Vredendal.

ment; Citrusdal Tourism Bureau; Warmbad Plaas / The Baths; Tienfontein Farm/Brakfontein; Berg en Dal Boerdery; Paardekop Boerdery; Spar Citrusdal; Thara Khama Farm; Lamberts Bay Tourism Bureau; Lambertsbaai Hotel; Kaap Agri (Eendekuil); Eendekuil Hotel; Cederberg Tourism Bureau; Tourism Bureau Porterville; Department of Justice Moorreesburg; Expo Epping; Swanepoel & Swanepoel Prokureurs; KVB Korporasie; Kaap Agri Porterville; Vredenburg Social Services; Go-Reach Training Centre; Welmac; Vredenburg Municipality; WestarCor Engineering; Atlantis Hospital; Atlantis Red Door; Weskus Nuus (Atlantis); Du Plessis & Mostert; DC Associates.



At the back from left Christolene Maarman, Andedee Ludick, Unathi Sicholo, in front: Naazma Ocks, Nelisiwe Mahlathi and Thobeka Magevane with the clock in the background indicating the time.

Students participate in longest soccer game

Thirty West Coast College students participated in the World's Longest Soccer Tournament in Cape Town during the World Cup, supporting underprivileged youth. The college pledged R2,010 towards the Homeless World Cup squad to participate in a tournament in Brazil this year.

The tournament was held in Epping and was aimed at giving underprivileged youth an opportunity to experience the excitement of the Fifa World Cup. At the same time the tournament organizers also set a new record, which replaces the longest soccer match in Bristol in the UK listed on the World Record Academy.

Hundreds of youngsters participated in the competition, which started on Friday 02 July and ended 48 hours later on Sunday 04 July. West Coast students joined in when the last few hours were counted down.

Tournament organisers have hailed the event a huge success and said the renewed interest in football sparked by the World Cup helped unearthed a tremendous amount of raw football talent within the community.

West College is proud to have contributed to this success story, which no doubt will have helped given some homeless youngsters hope for the future and get them off the streets.

Troy Pascucci has been appointed as LPU Specialist (Technical). A seasoned professional with 25 years' experience in

training. He specialized as an Instructional Designer. Qualified as an Electrician Millwright and then completed TT Diploma. Troy spent six years with False Bay FET College. He consulted for ESETA and Services SETA, ICG and Dakota Training as an accredited Assessor, Moderator and Verifier. Troy is very passionate about training and enjoy the training and development field.

Tinie Olivier has been appointed as Learnership Specialist for the General and Business areas in the LPU section at Central Office in Malmesbury. Tinie has extensive training and development experience in a wide variety of educational fields in public and private institutions. Tinie holds a Masters Degree in Industrial Psychology. He believes in quality and professional services and is committed to deliver expected outcomes on time. As Learnership Specialist he will be responsible for the smooth functioning and coordination of all business-related programmes like



training. He specialized as an Instructional Designer. Qualified as an Electrician Millwright and then completed TT Diploma. Troy spent six years with False Bay FET College. He consulted for ESETA and Services SETA, ICG and Dakota Training as an accredited Assessor, Moderator and Verifier. Troy is very passionate about training and enjoy the training and development field.



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STAFF NEWS

New Venture Creations, Early Childhood Development, Student Business Administration, and the W&RSETA retail programmes.

Ntombekaya Nduna, Student Support Services Manager describes herself as a mother of a seven month "sexy and cute little boy...". She has been a school teacher for 12 years at the Manzomthombo High in Mfuleni, Cape Town. She was coordinator of the Individual Learner Support Team (ILST) and sport (netball). During her career as a teacher she also acted as an IsiXhosa and Life



Orientation HOD. Before qualifying as a teacher she was working as a secretary in the taxi industry in Mfuleni. She graduated with BA, HDE in 1997/8 from the University of the Western Cape.

Siphindile Makeleni has been appointed in as Financial Aid Coordinator. She is engaged getting married in December this year. Siphindile obtained her Diploma in Financial Management. She has six years work experience within the FET sector of which three years within Northlink College as Debtors Clerk and Managing iKapa Elihlumayo



Bursaries. For the last three years she worked as Financial Aid Officer in the Western Cape Education Department's Chief Directorate for FET College.

Lynn Pienaar has been employed as the Labour Relations Officer. Born in Johannesburg, she moved to Cape Town ten years ago and has been "loving the Cape ever since..." She graduated with a B-Tech Degree in Human Resource Management at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). Lynn was previously employed in the clothing sector and says she is very excited to be part of the development for the new generation.



Women's Day full of surprises

The West Coast College's Annual Women's Day celebrations literally turned hats this year as more than hundred staff members were treated to a fashion show and latest wardrobe trends, and various surprise prizes, the highlight of which was a mid-week getaway for four from Dream Vacation Club, won by Vredendal lecturer Liezel Perrang.

All ladies at the function were expected to wear a hat. This was symbolic of the different roles women have: mother, sister, carer, nurse, homemaker, worker and sportswoman. Mary Pearson from central office walked away with the award for Best Hat.

The guest speaker, Baboo Phoplonker of Quantam Lifestyle Empowerment Centre gave a motivational speech about the importance of setting goals. The programme also included a health and beauty talk by Sh'zen and a sterling performance by Bradley



Women staff show off their outfits at college function.

Minnies from Citrusdal campus performing his latest release.

In a surprising turn of events the winning hat was auctioned and raised R200 towards the soon to be establish college Bursary Fund.

West Coast College would like to thank Florida Foods, Tastic, Darling Wines, Sh'zen, Quantam Lifestyle Empowerment Centre and Dream Vacation Club for their support.